

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6 and 12 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-15 are pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claim 3. By way of this amendment and reply, claim 3 has been amended to include the features of its base claim and any intervening claims, and thus claim 3 is now in allowable form.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-2, 4-10 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,366,453 to Wang et al.; and claims 1 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,343,006 to Moscovitch et al. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

Claim 1 has been amended to include certain features recited in ‘objected to’ claim 3, whereby claim 1 now recites that column comprises opposed side faces and wherein a plurality of connectors are located on at least one of the opposed side faces. These features are not believed to be disclosed or suggested by either Moscovitch et al. or by Wang et al., which do not show any connectors provided on any side face their respective computer

support columns. Thus, claim 1, as well as claims 2, 4 and 7-15 which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, are now believed to be in allowable form.

With respect to presently pending independent claim 5, that claim now recites that support includes an interior region and a support housing that envelops the interior region, wherein the support housing includes at least one connector provided thereon, and wherein a processor unit is provided entirely within the support. See Figure 1 of the drawings and the description of that figure in the specification, for example.

In its rejection of claim 5, the Office Action asserted that “the processor unit forms a part of the support as shown in fig. 7”. While this statement may be true on its face, in Wang et al., the processor unit 18 is connected to the support 14 via connectors. In particular, the processor unit 18 of Wang et al. is not provided entirely within his support 18; rather, the processor unit 18 of Wang et al. is provided external to the support 18 and is connected to the support 18 via connectors. See Figures 7 and 8 of Wang et al., for example.

The same arguments apply as well for claim 6, whereby Wang et al.’s power supply unit (presumably disposed within his processor unit 18) is not provided entirely within his support 18; rather, the power supply unit of Wang et al. is provided external to the support 18 and is connected to the support 18 via connectors. See Figures 7 and 8 of Wang et al., for example.

Accordingly, presently pending independent claims 5 and 6 are not anticipated by Wang et al.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date November 23, 2005

By Phillip J. Articola

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Customer No.: 22879
Telephone: (202) 672-5485
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

William T. Ellis
Registration No. 26,874

Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819